

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Office Action, Claims 1-9 have been canceled and replaced with new Claims 10-17.

Independent Claim 10 is not anticipated by Rahman et al '090 because Rahman et al '090 does not provide a disclosure of the following limitations:

sending a Location Update Procedure over the Mobile Switching Center MSC and the Visitor Location Register VLR to the Home Location Register HLR, at which the IMSI deposited on the SIM is transferred to the HLR, wherein the HLR checks whether the IMSI is registered and in the negative case sends an error report back to the VLR;

wherein in the VLR a special module is arranged, the assignment of which is to receive the error reports, evaluate them, and release corresponding predetermined actions whereby the call is rerouted by means of an established routing to a specially arranged credit-card-server which checks the validity of a credit card of the subscriber, and in case of a valid credit card an authentication and registration of the subscriber and billing of the claimed services occurs by means of the credit card.

Rahman et al generally relates to a prepayment method wherein the subscriber gains access to a radio network with the subscriber's credit card and buys a specific amount of prepayment credit. On the other hand, the method defined by Claim 10 of the present application provides for direct access to the mobile radio network in that any person who owns a credit card and has access to a mobile phone can register in the mobile radio network and utilize its services. Once the HLR determines that the IMSI is not registered, it sends an error report back to the VLR whereby the call is rerouted to a specially arranged credit card server that checks the validity of the credit card and then provides for authentication, registration and billing of the services by means of that credit card. It is therefore submitted that Claims 10-12 and 19 are not anticipated by Rahman et al '090 and define subject matter that is patentable thereover.

Turning now to independent Claim 13, this claim is directed to an access method wherein application of the subscriber to the telecommunication network occurs by means of a special subscriber identity module, a Simple-SIM which makes available an IMSI (International Mobile Subscriber Identity) characterizing this Simple-SIM and has a

functionality restricted to carrying a registration procedure of the mobile terminal. The Simple-SIM registers with a Simple-HLR, which recognizes the Simple-SIM by means of IMSIs and serves solely for the authentication and registration of the special subscriber identification modules.

Rahman et al '090 does not disclose an authentication method making use of a Simple-SIM and Simple-HLR in the manner set forth in Claim 13. The advantage of the claimed method is that the registration and authentication of mobile subscribers who are not yet registered in the mobile radio network is carried out completely separately from the registration of conventional registered subscribers. Furthermore, Simple-SIMs are easy to manufacture and distribute thereby reducing the required resources in the mobile radio network.

For these reasons, it is submitted that Claim 13 and the claims dependent thereon are not anticipated by Rahman et al '090.

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Reply to Office Action dated June 23, 2004

It is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance. However, if further issues remain it is requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned at 260-460-1692.

Respectfully submitted,

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Name of Registered Representative

Signature

October 22, 2004

Date